## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-11** 

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AGR-20 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10

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PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 SCEM-02 SCI-06 EUR-25

SAJ-01 COME-00 /165 W

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R 060844Z DEC 73 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8594

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E.O 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR, JA

SUBJ: BRUNTHAVER'S VISIT

- 1. SIGNIFICANT POINTS FROM MEETINGS ON FIRST DAY JAPAN VISIT, ALL WITH MAF, WERE AS FOLLOWS:
- 2. PETROLEUM SHORTAGE DOMINATED, PARTICULARLY AS RELATED TO BUNKERING VESSELS. JAPANESE PLEAS RANGED FROM REQUEST FOR COOPERATION/COMMUNICATION TO OUTRIGHT PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR VESSELS CARRYING GRAIN/SOYBEANS TO JAPAN. VICE MIN KAMENAGA CITED VERY RECENT CONVERSATION WITH PRIMIN TANAKA, IN WHICH LATTER INDICATED THAT "CONTINUED SUPPLY FUEL FOR VESSELS BRINGING FOOD TO JAPAN WOULD CERTAINLY BE TAKEN CARE OF". KAMENAGA INDICATED THAT NEW BILL BEFORE DIET, WHICH HE EXPECTS TO PASS IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS, WOULD SEEK TO AVOID RIGID OR MECHANICAL-TYPE ALLOCATIONS BUT WOULD AUTHORIZE RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES TO WORK OUT FLEXIBLE ARRANGEMENTS "TO SEE THAT SUPPLIES GO WHERE NEEDED" (WE INTERPRET ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE).
- 3. DURING UNIQUE 1-1/2 HOUR SEMINAR ATTENDED BY ALL TOP MAF OFFICIALS, KEY BRUNTHAVER POINTS WERE THAT (1) IF AND WHEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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US COMMODITY PRICES SAG, JAPAN COULD HELP GREATLY TO MAIN-

TAIN PRODUCTION INCENTIVE FOR US PRODUCERS BY BUYING FOR STOCK BUILD-UP, AND (2) JAPAN SHOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER FORWARD BUYING (2-3 YEARS) AS MEANS OF ASSURING SUPPLIES WHILE AT SAME TIME GIVING US PRODUCERS CONTINUED SIGNAL OF STRONG MARKET DEMAND. RE OIL, BRUNTHAVER INDICATED THAT (1) PRIORITY BEING GIVEN IN US TO MAINTAINING SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR BOTH EXPANDED PRODUCTION AND TRANSPORTATION US FARM EXPORTS, AND (2) EFFORTS COULD ANDWOULD BE MADE TO ASSURE THAT BUNKERING FUELS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR VESSELS CARRYING GRAIN AND SOYBEANS TO JAPAN, BUT THAT THIS WOULD PROBABLY ONLY BE TO THE EXTENT US FUEL HAD BEEN RELIED UPON BY JAPAN IN THE PAST.

- 4. FOOD AGENCY NOW HAS WHEAT STOCKS EQUAL TO 2.3 MONTHS RE-QUIREMENTS (NORMAL HAS BEEN ABOUT 1 MONTH SUPPLY), BUT THAT IF GRAIN SHIPMENTS SHOULD BE CUT BY 20 PERCENT DUE TO FUEL PROBLEM THIS STOCK WOULD BE BACK TO 1 MONTH SUPPLY BY JUNE 1974
- 5. EMPHASIZING CONCERN AND REQUESTING US COOPERATION ON BUNKERING PROBLEM, FA DIRECTOR NAKANO CONCLUDED BY NOTING STERNLY THAT IF JAPAN CANNOT GET NECESSARY COOPERATION, THEY WILL HAVE TO MAKE BASIC PROGRAM CHANGES AIMED AT MAXIMIZING DOMESTIC PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF RICE TO DISPLACE IMPORTED WHEAT.
- 6. IN LIVELY EXCHANGE VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY ARRANGEMENT FOR GRAINS WITH UCHIMURA, ECON AFFAIRS BUREAU CHIEF, LATTER POINTED OUT THAT WHILE JAPAN COULD EASILY JOIN IN SUPPORTING THE ELEMENTS FAVORED BY USA (SUPPLY-DEMAND CONSULTATIONS, MULTI-LATERAL FOOD-AID, STOCK-PILING, EXPORT SUBSIDY CURTAILMENT, AND POSSIBLY EVEN SOME ASSURANCES OF SUPPLY) JAPAN HAS (1) RESERVATIONS AS TO WHETHER THESE CAN BE PUT IN MEANINGFUL PACKAGE THAT DOES NOT CONTAIN PRICE PROVISIONS, AND (2)

OBVIOUS OBJECTIONS TO A PACKAGE WHICH,
THOUGH AIMED AT STABILITY AND WORLD FOOD SECURITY, MIGHT
ONLY OR AT LEAST MAINLY BENEFIT DROUGHT-PRONE USSR. UCHIMURA
PROPOSED BI-LATERAL MEETING IN MARCH OR APRIL IN TOKYO FOR
PURPOSE OF EXCHANGING SUPPLY-DEMAND INFORMATION AND DISCUSS-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ING COMMODITY ARRANGEMENT IDEAS; ALSO INDICATED THAT SINCE THEY NOW HAVE SENIOR AG MAN IN PEKING THEY WOULD AT THAT TIME PRESENT US WITH INFO ON PRC SITUATION. SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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